

The Good news of My Emanuel

June 3rd 2012

www.myemanuel.com

17th edition

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5But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. (Isaiah Chapter 53 verse 5 KJV)

Don't give up!

I know the road is so hard and the battle never seems to get easier but I pray that you would remember the battle is for the most precious prize which is eternal life and that even when the battle seems unbearable that our Lord and Christ, Jesus, is there by your side walking with you even through the darkest valleys! I pray you would remember the beautiful Psalm: **4Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. (Psalm Chapter 23 verse 4 KJV)** – brothers and sisters the Lord will never abandon you nor leave you, have faith, trust in Him for all your needs and He will fulfill His wonderful promise again and again! **6Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. (Deuteronomy Chapter 31 verse 6 KJV).**

I pray that you would read this wonderful poem and remember that He is true to His word and that even through the darkest night He is the light of the world! Won't you remember He is the light and the hope? [Http://www.myemanuel.com/alwaysthere.html](http://www.myemanuel.com/alwaysthere.html)



Sections

The Good news of My Emanuel is split up into several sections to make what you are looking for easy to find! The sections of our newsletter are:

- Weekly sermon (red)
- Weekly life impacting scripture (blue)
- Testimony (green)
- Outreach (cyan)
- Prayer and praise request (yellow)
- Reviews and newly found ministries (pink)

This color coded section should allow you to gain quick access to any portion of this newsletter, we know that some days you will have time to read all the way through, other days you will want to jump directly to something in the newsletter.

What is the rapture?

Learn more about the rapture, the coming tribulation, mark of the beast and much more. Folks if you don't know or have never read this it is critical! Please visit www.myemanuel.com/raptureroom.html for more information and on links, discussion threads, and more! Make ready for the time is near!

15Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. (Colossians Chapter 1 verse 15-17 KJV)

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Weekly Sermon

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

Repent, draw close to the Lord

Faith, such a wonderful thing, a belief in the higher power of the Lord and the only true faith that means anything is the faith in Jesus Christ that He is the Son of God, that He died on the cross at Calvary for our sins, that the only way to the Father is through the Son. The Christian religion is so different from every other religion its hard to explain to those who have never known Christ but as Christians we are not required to do anything, yet out of our love and faith in Christ it is our desire to do everything for our God! The one true God of Israel, the Father of our wonderful savior, has given us the freedom from the bondage of our sin, He has given us a way back to Him, a way for us to attain forgiveness for our sins when we had no way before Christ. God has freed us from the curse of the law and has freed us from the bondage of our sin through Christ on the cross and the only justification before God is faith in Christ. **16Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. (Galatians Chapter 2 verse 16 KJV)** Understand this and no this: no amount of good works, no amount of keeping God's law, no amount of being a "good" person could ever bring you close to the holiness, the perfection, the awesome goodness of the Almighty for everything we do is as dirty rags before God for the depths of His perfection we cannot understand but there is one who withstood temptation and fulfilled the perfect law of God, there is one that never committed a single sin on earth, that never stumbled, that overcame the devil, and conquered death, hell, and the grave and His name is Jesus the Christ of Nazareth Son of God, Emmanuel, Hosanna, the Lord and savior of all mankind and all those who have faith in Him, all those who accept Him as Lord and savior, all those who repent of their sins, and all those who love Him will be given the eternal life promised! **16For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John Chapter 3 verse 16 KJV)**

Brother if you can understand that by faith alone in Christ and by the will of the Almighty through His grace we are saved you can understand much! Being faithful means so many things, being free from the curse of the law is such a wonderful blessing, the eternal life we are guaranteed is so wonderful our minds cannot comprehend this inheritance. I felt lead to remind you all of one very important point for the word faith means many things but one thing I know that it absolutely means is love. Faith means a love for our God, a love for Christ, and as Christ Himself tells us: **23Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. 24He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. (John Chapter 14 verse 23-24 KJV)** – do you love Christ? Are you obeying Christ? Are you obeying the Almighty? Its so hard for us to understand God's purpose but all the same we are to peruse and seek Him with all our hearts and souls and strength and this is the truth that you must understand and seek out: to obey God is to submit to God, it is to admit to yourself, to everyone, to God that we are unworthy, that alone we cannot make it, that through Christ alone we find the strength to obey the Lord and to battle with our flesh. We will never be perfect in the law for if it were possible for man to be perfect in the law the wonderful sacrifice of Christ would have not be necessary but we must seek out each day to serve the Lord, to OBEY the Lord, to live Christ centered lives, God honoring lives, as we seek to be holy for He is holy! **26And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine. (Leviticus Chapter 20 verse 26 KJV).**

I have this warning for those who have a candy-man preaching a message of prosperity, acceptance, and that God "just wants you to be happy", repentance is a key component of our relationship with the Lord. It is understanding and accepting the truth that we are rebellious, that our flesh fights against our spirit, that we are dirty sinners before the Lord, and if we refuse to humble ourselves and repent of our sins there is no salvation for our sins! Willfully sinning against God even after you have accepted Christ as your savior is a dangerous thing to do for we are reminded in the book of Hebrews: **26For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. (Hebrews Chapter 10 verse**

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26-27 KJV) – I challenge you this day to look at your life daily and to pray to God, “Lord what can I do in my life to be closer to you?” God will convict your heart and continue to change you to be more and more like Christ! One of the strongest messages I have ever heard about this process is called the “crucible of Christ” and if you are as me and didn’t know what a “crucible” is, it is the tool they use to separate gold, silver, and other precious metals from the ore, it essentially separates gold and rock. The crucible of Christ is one where God refines us each day through the pressures of life, where He separates more us away and puts more of Christ with-in us! **10Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. (Isaiah Chapter 48 verse 10 KJV) – for we are refined through the hardships of life, our faith is tested, and as when we work our muscles of our body the more tired our faith becomes the stronger it grows! As it is torn down, again and again it rises up! **14If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles Chapter 7 verse 14)****

My friends I leave you with this the warning of the prophet Jonah: **1And the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. 3So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days’ journey. 4And Jonah began to enter into the city a day’s journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. 5So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. 6For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. 7And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: 8But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. 9Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?**

10And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not. (Jonah Chapter 3 verse 1-10 KJV).

Life impacting scripture

Timothy Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

James (4:6 KJV)

6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

In our day to day lives, do we ever stop to remember we are supposed to be humble men and women? People argue that they can do this better than anyone or mistakes made were everyone else's fault. Some people can do no wrong in their own eyes. A lot of us Christians instead of being humble are proud and proud of it! We are too strong, too good, or too smart. Have you ever heard someone say, "Well at least I've got my pride...."? We are not supposed to be proud, or boast in ourselves!

Jesus the King of Kings, Son of God, the Christ, our Redeemer was a humble servant. He did not brag, he did not strive, he did not argue, and he did not boast. Jesus who had committed no sin, died for all of mankind, who are unworthy and unthankful. Many people today will ask for no help, will accept no charity, always learn everything the hard way and never stop to think "I am truly blessed for my life could be much worse". When you think of yourself higher than you really are remember this parable.

Luke (18:9-14 KJV)

9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Jesus, whom any Christian knows had all the right in creation to exalt himself, or raise himself above everyone else, went the opposite way. He ate with sinners, he talked to a foreign woman adulterer, his closest disciples and friends were fishermen, he himself had no where to live permanently and he wore no extravagant clothes. And in display of his humility and an example to the rest of us, the King of Kings washed his disciples feet.

John (13:4-16 KJV)

4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

6 Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

7 Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

8 Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

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9 Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

10 Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.

11 For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

12 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you?

13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.

14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

And in our greatest hour, our salvation, the only way we could EVER know the Father, ever live with him in heaven, Jesus was beaten, tortured and hung on a cross like a common thief. Next time you think a person is beneath you, or your too good to love the lowest of the world, that your above that person ,the next time you think your better then anyone for any reason remember. We are all equal in the eyes of Jesus. He died for ALL of US.

Romans (3:10 KJV)

10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

**Condemn none, Judge none, Hate none.
Love All.**

Testimony

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemaneul.com>

Do you have a testimony that you would like to share with our readers? We would love to hear what the Lord has done in your life that has provided you with a testimony to glorify his name! Please contact us at dhigginbotham@myemaneul.com if you would like to share your testimony! You may remain totally anonymous!

“No thanks”

This week I was blessed to be at my favorite park during lunch at work and as I got there I was prepared to pray and to read to spend much needed time with the Lord. I walked around the park twice and there were several people at the park walking, picnicking, playing on the play ground and just enjoying the beautiful weather. As I walked through the park I found a bench near the main walk path and prepared to read my book... or would I?

If you have ever tried to witness to someone you know how hard it truly can be, the world is so far away from the Lord and truly refuse to hear from anyone who makes them uncomfortable or think about the things they are doing. Witnessing is such a hard thing to do because as Christians we are commanded to share the Gospel and to do so with pride but as beings of flesh and spirit our flesh fights us every second of the way: “they don't want to hear about Jesus” or “they will laugh at you or attack you” the thoughts that race through your mind as you get ready to open your mouth and talk about Jesus are hard to overcome but the feeling of the Holy Spirit coarsing through your body is truly amazing.

As the Lord often does He changed my plans for me at this park as a group of three ladies walked past and as they went by talking the voice echoed in my mind “what if they don't know me Daniel?” and immediately I knew that I wouldn't be reading my book that I would be sharing my testimony this day. I began to pray as I walked slowly back to the car to put my book in the car and to get some “Help from Above” scripture booklets that we were blessed to receive. Already my flesh was fighting in anticipation that I would share my testimony as the park is one big circle the women had to come back by me. I prayed as I walked back to the spot where I had been as the women approached me I could see them getting closer, “please use me Lord” I continued to pray.

“Ladies I know you came to the park just to walk but I was curious if anyone has ever told you about our Lord Jesus Christ” the words came flowing out of my mouth as I felt my flesh lurch in anticipation for an attack or some cruel comment that my flesh had been trying to convince me I would hear, the ladies all looked at each other and said “no thanks” and I was both excited I wasn't attacked and disheartened that they would not even hear me out “are you sure? Can I just give you one of these?” I replied, “No thanks” as they walked away. Standing there I was a bit amazed both of how they would not hear me but as I continued to walk around the park wondering what I did wrong I was reminded of scripture I had read in the book of Ezekiel and comforted to know that all I can do is attempt to share the Gospel, I cannot force it on anyone, but I will never be silent and I will never refuse to share it, God warned and comforted the prophet Ezekiel: **19Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. (Ezekiel Chapter 3 verse 19 KJV)** – take comfort in this truth, if you are obedient unto the Lord and profess the Gospel and share it with anyone you can you are doing what God has commanded. If you deny Christ before men Christ will deny you before the holy angels...

Did the ladies listen? No. Did God use me to touch their hearts? I don't know... could they now be seeking to know more about Jesus Christ the one that some weird guy had the courage to come and ask them to tell them more about? Only God knows why we are called to do the things we do and where we are called to do them. Glory to God for allowing me to confess His holy and wonderful name! Never allow your flesh to overpower you when being lead to testify and share the Gospel and always take comfort in this: **19But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. 20For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. (Matthew Chapter 10 verse 19-20 KJV)**

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Outreach

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

You again??

For those of you who read our newsletter often you may remember a brother we have been blessed to help before named Marcus who has been brave enough to come to us now on two occasions to ask for food to eat and God has blessed us both times to be able to assist him. Just a few days ago I looked up and saw a man sit down on the bench where I work and he looked so familiar, after a few minutes I realized it was Marcus and after I finished assisting my customer I went over to see what was going on. "I hate to bother you at work and I really hate to keep bothering you but I really just, is there anyway you can get me a few things to eat? Its in between checks and none of the places in town have much to give you" in my mind I was screaming in irritation that this man was back in asking me yet again to help him... I am ashamed even now to admit that I was irritated that this brother had the courage to come and ask again for help for truly I could tell he was in need.

"You ask me again and again for forgiveness" I felt as if God was reminding me that just as this brother in need was asking us for assistance again and again that I was asking God for assistance again and again. Unlike me God never grows angry or weary at my needs and as I began to realize this I was blessed to understand two things: giving is not always easy and God never ceases to bless me and answer my prayers no matter how many times I stumble... I must admit that I was not able to give to Marcus that very day that he called me and it was only after several calls the next day that I was able to get out to meet him but God did bless me to come to this brother and provide for him through the blessings that God has poured out on me. To all my brothers and sisters reading these words I would give you this stern warning that Christ Himself gives:

34Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

41Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. (Matthew Chapter 25 verse 34-46 KJV)

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Prayer and praise request!

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The “reviews” and “newly found ministries” sections have been combined in order to provide a new section to share prayer request from brothers and sisters, readers of The Good News of My Emanuel as well as to post praise request to glorify our Heavenly Father and give him praise for answering our prayers! Please contact us at dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com with a prayer or praise request as well as on the Emanuel Connect feature at <http://www.myemanuel.com/emanuelconnect/index.php> under “Prayer request” or “Praise request”.

Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not to temptation but deliver us from evil, for the glory and the power of Your heavenly kingdom. Father we pray that you would lift up these prayer request and allow all who seek answers in prayer to receive You, for truly we know Father if we ask we shall receive. We ask that you would allow all those who read these words and prayers to pray for their brothers and sisters in Christ. Father we glorify and praise your name for these praise request and know that just as you answer our prayers we glorify your name even in the dark places! Praise you Father! In Jesus Christ beautiful name we pray, Amen.

Please keep our brother Christian in your prayers, may God continue to touch his life and his marriage, Lord may you continue to press the hearts of this couple and bring them closer to you! For your glory alone Lord may you demonstrate your power and love and may the grow close to you!

Please be in prayer for our sister in Christ Vickie, God, O' Holy Physician, Good Doctor, we pray that you would continue to be with this sister and heal her faithful body, Lord may you indwell with-in her always and show her your love and power as you totally remove any affliction from her body.

Please keep our brother in Christ Chip in your prayers, may God heal his eyes and his sight, Lord may you open not only his physical eyes but also his spiritual eyes and make him whole with-in you!

Please continue to be in prayer for Timmy and I that God would use us and My Emanuel to continue to touch lives. Lord may you bless us and allow us to continue to praise you and share the Gospel wherever you would lead us! May you touch our spirits and make us strong with-in our walk!

Please be in prayer for our sister in Christ Tammy that God would heal her of her affliction. God may you life up this desperate sister and remind her that you are God alone and capable of all things!

Please be in prayer for all those who continue to ignore the stern warning of the Almighty, Lord may you continue to be patient as we cry out for the attention of those you are trying to reach. May you be with your beloved Lord and show us your glory, reveal to us your love, and bring all the unbelievers close to you!

Please be in prayer for all those who are hurting and in desperate need of the Hope that is Christ Jesus, the only peace that can comfort all afflictions!

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Reviews and newly found ministries

Daniel Higginbotham – My Emanuel – <http://www.myemanuel.com>

Are you a leader or member of a God fearing ministry that puts the Lord Jesus Christ first in all they do? Do you have a website or blog that you post Christian messages or provide any type of ministry? Contact us at dhigginbotham@myemanuel.com to request that we add you to our bi-weekly newsletter.

Ministries:

Holy Desperation – www.holydesperation.com all I can say is wow... I saw one of their videos on YouTube and wow, powerful, emotional, spiritual stuff that will remind you of how our relationship with God should be!

Books:

The Message of Galatians by John R. W. Stott – this book is a wonderful book about the Epistle by the Apostle Paul to the Church at Galatia, it is a fantastic book and will greatly expand your understanding of the true message of the Gospel.

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